



A tax-exempt non-profit corporation founded in 1962

## Call for Program Proposals AHS, Inc. National Conference & Summer Institute

*Mission Statement: "To celebrate our legacy, inspire excellence, and empower the next generation of harpists."*

Every summer, the AHS, Inc. hosts national gatherings of high musical quality and educational value. The Program Committee is now accepting a national Call for Proposals. Please review the following guidelines and program focus, and submit your application for consideration.

- All applicants submitting proposals must be current members of the AHS.
- Submit a short bio for each performer/presenter/ensemble
- Performance proposals for solo, chamber, and/or harp ensembles should include:
  - Program information, including a repertoire list with timings of works proposed (use *mm:ss* format)
  - An Audio/Visual recording, if available
  - Personnel requirements of suggested works
  - A rationale for how the work(s) support the programming theme for the event
- Presentations and workshop proposals should include:
  - A detailed description of the proposed workshop content
  - A preliminary list of A/V equipment requirements
- For more information, visit <http://harp society.org/ConferenceInstitute/>

The **National Conference**, held in even-numbered years, features performances by distinguished harpists, both soloists and ensembles; workshops on wide-ranging topics; master classes with world-class teachers; panels, and scholarly lectures, as well as an exhibit hall with a dazzling array of harps in many forms, harp music, and related items. The National Conference provides an opportunity for exchange and fellowship between members from all over the United States and around the world.

The **Summer Institute**, held in odd-numbered years, focuses on student harpists and teachers of all ages and levels with workshops, master classes, and concerts by some of the best performers and pedagogues in the world. The Summer Institute is held in conjunction with AHS National Competition, where talented young harpists compete for awards and scholarships. From its inception in 1995, the intent of the Summer Institute has been to provide more in-depth workshops and time for intimate interaction between presenters and members attending the Institute.

**IN ORDER TO BE CONSIDERED FOR THE 44th AMERICAN HARP SOCIETY, INC. NATIONAL CONFERENCE, to be held in ORLANDO, FLORIDA, JUNE 21-24, 2020. ALL INFORMATION FOR PROGRAM PROPOSALS MUST BE SUBMITTED BY MAY 15, 2019.**

Submit your application materials to the AHS Executive Director at [ExecDirector@harp society.org](mailto:ExecDirector@harp society.org). Proposals will be forwarded to the National Event Chair(s) for consideration with the Organizing Committee.

## 44th American Harp Society, Inc. National Conference

"That's Entertainment!"

June 21-24, 2020

Renaissance Orlando at SeaWorld

The 2020 National Conference in Orlando, Florida will celebrate our musical legacy with the welcoming theme of enjoyment and entertainment. "People come to Florida to be entertained. Our goal is to make sure people enjoy themselves," says Jan Jennings, National Conference Chair.

Successful conference workshop and performance proposals will focus on elevating the inquiry and discourse around the following topics through demonstrating, educating, highlighting, and/or informing attendees in one of the following areas:

- The **history & legacy** of American popular music transformed by the iconic American harpists who brought their cultural influences to the repertoire. Program and performance ideas might include:
  - Paying homage to the pioneers in pop harp
  - Exploring the early days of pop harp in the workplace
  - The relationship between world traditions and American musical culture
- **Professional development & repertoire resources** that inform teaching and advance skills. Sessions might include topics such as:
  - Writing for the harp
    - Creating new editions
    - Approaches to arranging for harp
    - A look back at the first published pop arrangers and their music
  - Harp maintenance
  - Techniques and tips for teachers
  - Preparing for an orchestra audition or competition
  - Memorization and practice strategies
  - Stage presence and dressing for success
- **Health & wellness practices** that support the physical and emotional stamina needed for musicians to thrive. Presentations might explore:
  - Yoga and/or exercise for harpists' general fitness
  - Hand, neck and back care
  - Hearing loss prevention
  - Good nutrition on the go
  - Dealing with stress, on and off stage
- **Business, Marketing, and Technology** for musicians. Suggested subjects might include:
  - marketing/promoting yourself in the 21<sup>st</sup> century
  - internet and social media tools
  - software, both musical and business
  - the latest electronic enhancements to performance
  - financial independence and money management